

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph at paragraph 57 lines 1 to 4 as follows:

The voltage dividing resistors 82A to 82E are connected at mid points thereof to the gate terminals of the thyristors 81A to 81E, and make up gate potential setting circuits 83A to 83E for supplying to the thyristors 81A to 81E a gate potential such that the thyristors 81A to 81E are turned off during the normal operation of the series-connected light emitting diodes 41A to 41E, and such that, when the light emitting diodes 41A to 41E are open-circuited, the thyristors 81A to 81E are turned off on.